

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant(s): K. OKAMOTO, et al.  
Filed: March 15, 2004  
For: FRICTION STIR WELDING APPARATUS AND METHOD AND  
PROCESSING APPARATUS AND METHOD  
Group: TBD  
Examiner: TBD

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
UNDER 37 CFR § 1.97 AND § 1.98**

Mail Stop Patent Application  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

March 15, 2004

Sir:

Pursuant to Applicants' duty of disclosure, enclosed please find a List, on a form substantially equivalent to Form PTO-1449, of documents cited in connection with a prior application of the above-identified application, Application No. 10/100,093, filed March 19, 2002.

Since Application No. 10/100,093 is being relied upon under 35 USC § 120 in the above-identified application, copies of the listed documents are not enclosed. See 37 CFR 1.98(d).

This Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted concurrently with the filing of the above-identified application. Accordingly, requirements of 37 CFR § 1.97(b) are satisfied.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that all applicable requirements of 37 CFR § 1.97 and § 1.98 have been satisfied, in connection with all

of the documents on the enclosed List. Accordingly, consideration of the listed documents, upon examination of the above-identified application, is respectfully requested.

To the extent necessary, Applicants petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to the Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (Case No. 500.41512CX2) and please credit any excess fees to such Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

ANTONELLI, TERRY, STOUT & KRAUS, LLP

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "William I. Solomon", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

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<b>Form PTO-1449</b>	<b>U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE</b>	<b>ATTY. DKT. NO.</b>  500.41512CX2	<b>APPLICATION NO.</b>  TBD
<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>  (Use several sheets if necessary)		<b>APPLICANT</b> K. OKAMOTO, et al.	
		<b>FILING DATE</b> March 15, 2004	<b>GROUP</b>

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date
	AA	2002/0145031	10/10/2002	Hirano, et al.		
	AB	2002/0050508	05/02/2002	Yoshinaga		
	AC	2003/0047590	03/13/2003	Okamoto, et al.		
	AD	6,421,578	07/16/2002	Adams, et al.		
	AE	6,102,636	08/15/2000	Geise		
	AF	6,168,066	01/02/2001	Arbegast		
	AG	2003/0057261	03/27/2003	Holman, et al.		
	AH	6,497,355	12/24/2002	Ding, et al.		
	AI	2002/0027155	03/07/2002	Okamura, et al.		
	AJ	5,893,507	04/13/1999	Ding, et al.		
	AK	6,299,050	10/09/2001	Okamura, et al.		
	AL	5,713,507	02/03/1998	Holt, et al.		
	AM	6,050,475	04/18/2000	Kinton, et al.		
	AN	5,697,544	12/16/1997	Wykes		

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Translation /Abstract	
						Yes	No
	AO	7-505090	6-8-95	Japan		X	
	AP	11-226768	8-24-99	Japan		X	
	AQ	6-143015	5-24-94	Japan		X	
	AR	11-188517	7-13-99	Japan		X	

**OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)**

AS	
<b>Examiner</b>	<b>Date Considered</b>

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	AA 6,302,315	10/16/2001	Thompson			
	AB 6,325,273	12/04/2001	Boon, et al.			
	AC 5,971,247	10/26/1999	Gentry			
	AD 6,336,842	01/08/2002	Ootsuki, et al.			
	AE 5,758,999	06/02/1998	Geise			
	AF 4,926,709	5/22/1990	Gardner			
	AG 5,940,787	08/17/1999	Gelston			
	AH 5,744,927	04/28/1998	Hayashida			
	AI 5,867,280	02/02/1999	Seitz, et al.			
	AJ 4,778,313	10/18/1988	Lehmkuhl			
	AK 6,311,889	11/06/2001	Ezumi, et al.			
	AL 3,689,839	09/05/1972	Cother			

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Translation /Abstract	
						Yes	No
	AM 0 496 303	07/29/1992	EP				
	AN						
	AO						
	AP						
	AQ						
	AR						
	AS						
	AT						

**OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)**

	AU	
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	AZ	
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